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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

96-HOUR REPORT

19 FEBRUARY 2019

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Sacramento – California National Guard Focuses on Illicit Cannabis Activity

(U) A new report from the state Cannabis Advisory Committee on the first year of legal cannabis sales in California says there is problem that requires urgent action, “Fragmented and uncoordinated enforcement has allowed the black market to flourish, threatening licensed businesses with unfair competition” according to the 22-member panel, which was appointed by former Governor Jerry Brown. Last week, Governor Newsom announced an expansion of efforts by the California National Guard to work with federal officials to target the black market, including illegal grows in Northern California operated by international drug cartels. The governor proposed that at least 150 California National Guard troops would be redeployed from the US-Mexico border to join a federally funded Counterdrug Task Force. As much as 80% of the marijuana sold in California comes from the black market, according to a firm that tracks cannabis sales and trends. Analysts also found that California’s illicit pot market was valued at an estimated \$3.7 billion last year, more than four times the size of the legal market.

SOURCE: 18 February 2019, [Los Angeles Times](#)

(U) NATIONAL

(U) District of Columbia – US Issues New Rules Requiring Rail Oil Spill Response Plans

(U) Washington DC – The US Department of Transportation has issued final rules requiring railroads to develop oil spill response plans and to disclose details of shipments to states and tribal governments after a series of high-profile incidents. The department’s Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration said the rules, first proposed in July 2016, would “improve oil spill response readiness and mitigate effects of rail accidents and incidents involving petroleum oil and high-hazard flammable trains.” The new rules apply to High Hazard Flammable Trains transporting petroleum oil in a block of 20 or more loaded tank cars and trains that have a total of 35 loaded petroleum oil tank cars. They require railroads to establish geographic response zones and ensure that personnel and equipment are staged and prepared to respond in the event of an accident.

SOURCE: 14 February 2019, [Reuters](#)

(U) North Carolina – Dismissed Employee Kills Five Co-Workers in Factory Shooting

(U) Hampstead – A gunman opened fire at an Illinois factory just after receiving notice of termination from his job there on 15 February, killing five fellow workers and wounding five policemen before he was killed by police, authorities said. The assailant, identified as Gary Martin, 45, had worked at the Henry Pratt Company for 15 years before Friday’s violence unfolded at the firm’s sprawling facility in Aurora, 40 miles west of Chicago. The chief said investigators were still looking into whether the gunman had a prior criminal history, but public records show Martin was convicted in 1995 for aggravated assault in Mississippi. Convicted felons are generally barred from possessing firearms.

SOURCE: 15 February 2019, [Reuters](#)

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UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY**(U) INTERNATIONAL****(U) Australia – Australia Accuses Foreign Government of Cyber Attack on Lawmakers**

(U) Sydney – A cyber-attack on Australian lawmakers that breached the networks of major political parties was probably carried out by a foreign government, Prime Minister Scott Morrison said on Monday, but did not name any suspects. As Australia heads for an election in May, lawmakers were told this month to urgently change their passwords after its cyber intelligence agency detected an attack on the national parliament's computer network. The hackers breached the networks of major political parties, Morrison said, as he issued an initial assessment by investigators. Morrison did not reveal what information was accessed, but he said there was no evidence of election interference.

SOURCE: 17 February 2019, [Reuters](#)

(U) Bosnia – Migrants Suspected of Terrorism Links, Smuggling, Detained in Bosnia

(U) Sarajevo – Six Afghan migrants suspected of links to terrorism and people trafficking were detained in Bosnia since the beginning of the year, the country's service for foreign affairs said on Tuesday. The six are among more than 25,000 migrants and refugees, mostly from Pakistan, Afghanistan, Iraq or Iran, who have entered Bosnia since January 2018, after other states, notably European Union members Hungary and Slovenia, sealed their borders. Five of them are suspected of links to international terrorism and the sixth of migrant trafficking and organized crime, the agency said.

SOURCE: 19 February 2019, [Reuters](#)

(U) Egypt – Security Forces Kill 16 Suspected Militants

(U) Cairo – Egyptian security forces killed 16 suspected militants in two separate raids in the city of Arish in North Sinai, state media said today. The report came the day after an explosion in central Cairo killed three policemen. Ten suspected militants were killed in the Obeidat district of Arish and another six were killed in the Abu Eita district of the city, state-run media said. An undisclosed quantity of weapons, ammunition and explosives were found with the six in Abu Eita.

SOURCE: 19 February 2019, [Reuters](#)

(U) Pakistan – Pakistan Prime Minister Warns India against Attack

(U) Islamabad – Prime Minister Imran Khan said Pakistan would retaliate if India attacked in response to a bombing in the disputed Kashmir region, which India blamed on Pakistan. Khan added that he wanted to cooperate in the investigation of the suicide bombing on Thursday, in which 40 Indian paramilitary police were killed in an attack claimed by the Pakistan-based Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) militant group. Tensions between the nuclear-armed neighbors has risen sharply over the killing in the Indian-controlled part of the disputed Himalayan region of Kashmir. Pakistani authorities have denied any involvement in the attack and called for UN intervention.

SOURCE: 19 February 2019, [Reuters](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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